

From: david.henning@dsic-nsg.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 12:51pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To: Renata B. Hesse

I agree with many of the reasons Dan Kegel and others have stated as to why the proposed settlement in this case is unacceptable to me as a consumer and end user of computer software. I take this time to write you about my particular concerns regarding this case.

I feel the monopoly Microsoft currently holds has hurt not only the country but the entire world with regard to the over all security and useability of the Internet. The homogeneity of Microsoft software has lead to larger numbers of virus outbreaks and 'hacking' which cost billions of dollars to fix and recover from. The fix should be something that stops Microsoft from creating an environment which prohibits other vendors from entering the market. If Ford had prevented other manufacturers from entering the automobile market we could all be driving in Pintos and Explorers on bad tires!

I have also read that part of what Microsoft proposes is to give away its software to schools around the country. This is not a move to make restitution as much as to get more people using their product over the small number of competitors who might be trying to make inroads to the market. I see this as being no different than a drug dealer that gives away the first 'hit' for free just to further their own business. I feel a better solution would be to make Microsoft pay for copies of competitor products and give them away to the schools.

I truly wish to see Microsoft punished properly for their crimes. I fear that they will simply use the money gained from these illegal activities to buy off the right people in our government. Please prove me wrong by making the penalties stiff and enforceable.

Thank you,

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